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NO. 28.

ORIGINAL STORY.

THE WHITE FAWN.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR
THE JOURNAL AND UNION, BY MARIE.

CHAPTER IV.

(Continued.)

CHAPTER V.

In the meantime, the party who had rescued Henry, Werner were quietly and steadily pursuing their way back to the white settlement, and a few hours brought them to his once happy home. With heart and feelings wild with emotion, he could scarcely wait to reach it, so anxious was he to know the fate of his poor wife. As they neared the lane which led to the house, they met several of the neighbors, whose frantic and care-worn looks told them something had happened. Poor Henry flew on wings of love, and before they had time to explain, he saw that his own dear home was a heap of ruins.

"Where, oh! where is my wife and child?" Kind friends, tell me, I pray? Ah! wretch that I was, to ever leave you! Ah! sinking exhausted upon the ground, he knew nothing more until he was removed to the house of one of the neighbors, where he was gradually restored to consciousness, and a knowledge of his desolate situation. Sad it was, indeed, to witness his anguish, as he called upon his loved, lost Emma.

"There was a time," said he, "when I could not harm the meanness that lives. Wild beast and reptile called forth my natural sympathies; but, in a few short hours I have grown a fiend! Despair and agony have given me strength; henceforth I only live to wreak my vengeance upon that savage race who has despoiled my heart of all that made life desirable. Is there any—even one—of this stout band who will join me? If so, my friend and brother, come, and every savage wretch we kill will sweeten the pangs of anguish which are destined to fill my weary heart."

When he had ceased speaking, a stout and brawny form stepped forth, and grasping his hand, while tears of sympathy were glistening in his eye, he said:

"Yes, my friend; Joe Hardy will join you, and fight till every drop of blood he has is spilled to kill them! A varmint! As I have said before, I have a bitter spite against 'em, and it does me good to hunt 'em down. Ah! if I had but a pack of hell-hounds from the abode of darkness, how I would hunt 'em down, and stand delighted to see 'em torn to pieces and hurled with vengeance into the bottomless pit! I've a right to feel so, my friends. You needn't call me unchristian, an' the like of that. Haven't I seen my own mother killed before my eyes, and my sister too, my only sister, and her helpless baby dashed again a tree? Ah! don't call me unchristian. 'An eye for an eye' an' a tooth for a tooth,' is what Joe Hardy believes in."

He was much overcome by his own feelings, for he had touched upon a subject and scenes upon which he seldom dared to speak. He said:

"It made a child of him, and he must stop." Henceforth he and the unfortunate Henry were to be as brothers; for truly they were, in misery. For the present, they joined the same party and retraced their steps to the forest, hoping to find some clue to the destiny of the wife and child of poor Werner. But all, alas! was vain, for they had no trace of them; they did not even know that they lived, and felt that it was more than probable they were long ere this put to death, especially as it would be risking so much to be encountered by a woman and child. Sad consolation! but that was the best that could be offered to poor Henry, who little thought that his beloved wife and child, after suffering so much were now protected and cared for by the hoard creatures against whom their vengeance was aimed. They scoured the country, and met several straggling parties of Indians, when they shot down like wolves; every one of which Joe Hardy would stop to scalp, that he might add them to his pile. At length the hunters were out of ammunition, and obliged to return, and Henry and Joe accompanied them only to get a fresh supply, and then pursue a different route, in hopes of yet hearing from the loved and lost.

"But it's no use hoping," said Joe to his friend, "them d—d varmints ain't goin' to be bothered with wimmen and children, and all that sort of thing."

He recognized him again, in the gloomy, morose hunter in his leather jacket, with his powder flask at his side and his gun upon his shoulder. He was never seen to smile, and his thoughts were seemingly forever bent upon one single object, more wild, he dwelt in the woods, and shunned the abode of the living. For weeks, and even months together, they would roam, solitary and alone, regardless of danger, because they had nothing for which to live. Henry would often say:

"How strange it seems, that we may now plunge into the deepest forest, where danger must surely lurk, and even court it, and be on it, but nothing befalls us, while, one bright and lovely day, in the very midst of friends, all could be taken from us."

He often tried, in the bitterness of his heart, to be resigned, but he could not feel how it was that he should have been so severely scourged. Then, he reflected upon his rashness, in bringing a young and delicate wife, whom he loved so dearly, into the very wilds of the savage foe. Dark and bitter was his life. For years and years he dwelt with his single companion, and scarce speaking to any else more than a passing word. At length growing weary of their search, and fat portion of the country becoming every year more civilized, they concluded to join a party of trappers, whom they encountered on route for Santa Fe; for civilization had no charms for them, and they pined for a deep forest in which to bury their gloom.

CHAPTER VI.

Wearied and fatigued, how gladly did poor Emma lay herself upon the pallet of straw which the friendly squaw had prepared for her, and sweetly did she sleep that night, for she dreamed of her home and her Henry. It was late, the next morning, when she awoke and found her darling babe still asleep upon her arm. The old squaw brought her some fresh milk and the best she had to eat, which greatly refreshed her, and her physical strength was soon restored by the kindness she received in the old chief's wigwam.

Soon after she arose, the old chief (who was known by the name of "Big Thunder," because of his eloquence and great influence in their councils) entered, and, placing a string of wampum around her neck, and giving her his pipe to smoke, he told her, in broken English, that she should not be harmed, and that the "White Fawn" must be taken care of because the Great Spirit had sent her to him for the little one he had lost.

"She is prettier too," he said, "than little Injun, and shall be called the White Fawn, because she is to be the daughter of the great and mighty Big Thunder."

It was a great consolation to poor Emma to be treated kindly, and to see that her child had been, in its innocent beauty, upon the heart of the chief, and could but hope that her life was spared to see happier days, and yet be restored to her beloved husband. It was but a faint hope yet it helped to cheer her on in her lonely existence. Day after day she witnessed the growing beauty of her child, and would sit, by the hour, and endeavor to trace in its lineaments a resemblance to the husband of her heart's idolatry.

"Perfect happiness," thought she, "cannot exist in this world. I made an idol of my own Henry, and I was idolized. Our all was laid at an earthly shrine, and can it be that we were punished because we loved too well? God of Mercy, no! it cannot be that the holiest and purest of nature's ties could be too deep and too devoted—Oh! from my inmost heart I have ever felt the beauty of the marriage vow; its purity and truth. Thy word has taught it, and a holy instinct confirms it."

Time rolled on, and the red men, tired of keeping up a continual warfare against the whites, remained for a while passive, amusing themselves with their wild fantastic sports, and with hunting and fishing, while the squaws were left at home, to perform the menial labor of life. Nearly five years had passed away, and the White Fawn had grown to be a sturdy, hale little Indian girl, in appearance, and in her pretty dress of deer skin, ornamented with beads and porcupine quills, and her belt of wampum, and head gear of white feathers, she looked like a miniature Indian queen, as she really was considered by all in the camp. She was too young to comprehend her situation, and all to her seemed bright and beautiful. Thus she grew happy and more happy every day. In the happiness of her child poor Emma tried to seek consolation. But the thought that by ignorance alone she could continue happy, and that she must dwell forever in the deep forest with Indians only, almost drove her to distraction. Then she would commit herself to the Almighty Ruler of the universe, and trust that through His providence they would be rescued before her child had attained to years of maturity.

But, poor Emma! even her prosperity was not secure, for she trembled when she thought of Big Injun, who had resigned her, with no little displeasure, to his chief, and had repeatedly asked her for his wife. For a long time he had been absent, and she began once more to feel free from that terror which his presence at the camp always created. It was her custom to wander forth for hours at a time, and commune with Nature and Nature's God. The vast wilderness her sacred temple was. The forest birds and zephyr's breeze combined to chant with her Jehovah's praise. And trees, and birds, and flowers were all she had to worship with at Nature's holy shrine.

The hollow glen its pure response would give, And purring brooks in silvery tones reply; While songs and praise of every thing that lived, Were borne by seraphs upward to the sky.

In one of these wild and solitary communings with Nature, seated in the vast forest, and overcome by the deep sorrow of her devoted heart, she at last fell a victim to him who of all others she most feared; for her former captor, Big Injun, had determined, in his envied heart, to have the prize he so eagerly had claimed, and knowing that it would be impossible to get her from his chief, against her will, he had absented himself.

Thus, fulfilling them all into fatal snare, he lured her all into fatal snare, he lured her all into fatal snare, he lured her all into fatal snare.

Without the desired success; for often she was accompanied by the White Fawn, from whom she was seldom separated, and not wishing to be encumbered with the child, and knowing that it would render escape more difficult, he waited in impatient anxiety for a time when all alone she should come to her deep solitude to indulge in pouring out the sorrows of her breaking heart. The time at length arrived which was to envelop the lovely Emma in fresh trials, and secure to the demon of vengeance his noble prize.

The day was calm and beautiful. The autumnal breeze fanned her pale cheek with its soft, balmy breath, and the clear and yellow leaf told her that she, too, was passing away to the better land; and Oh! how she longed to be released from the wild existence which had been thrown around her and star away and be at rest. Her stricken heart was attuned alone to grief, and her darling child was all that kept alive a spark of hope within her breast.

Suddenly she was aroused from her dreamy reverie, and, horrible to relate, her hated enemy, he bowed her. Without a moment's delay, he had near, placing her on the swift of the forest, regardless of her prayers and supplications, for all earth could not have penetrated his heart of stone, now that he had reached the goal of his desires, and like the proud eagle, bearing higher and still higher to his far eyrie the trembling dove, he swept over a deep forest in which to bury their gloom.

dashed, little heeding the agonized groans and unconscious moans of the lost, unfortunate Emma. At last, as night approached, he concluded to rest, and stopping in a wild and mountain region, he struck a fire, and discovering a dark cavern, he thought best to make that a present place of abode, sure that no human eye could there discover them. There, in that awful spot, poor Emma begged for death once more to come to her rescue; but, left to the pitiless and cruel savage, she could only pray for strength to endure on to the last. Spreading for her his blanket, and using the precaution of binding her fast to a log for fear she might escape, he bade her rest while he would go in search of some food. Oh! how she wished for some wild and ravenous beast of the forest to come while he was gone, and destroy her and her captor, for better, than to perish, than fall into the hands of such a wretch.

"Oh God!" she exclaimed, "my cup of woe is full. Now, in deep despair I resign myself to thee. How much longer can this suffering body endure, or this frenzied brain inhibit reason's throne?"

At last, overcome by grief and despair, she lay calmly and quietly, expecting every moment when she would hear the hated footsteps of her captor, when, in the still silence of the forest, she thought she heard the murmuring of distant voices.

In an instant hope irradiated her bosom, and she prayed that it might be a friendly arm sent by that God whom she had so often invoked for aid, in her great perils.

"Oh! she exclaimed, 'could I but burst these fetters and reach the outlet to this cavern, I might make them hear me. Rather would I fall into the hands of the wildest banditti, than be left alone to this horrid savage!'

Nearer and still nearer the sound approached, till there was no doubt but several persons were coming towards the cave, and she could at last distinguish voices, and her own beloved language caught her ear. Frantic with joy, she screamed with hysterical delight, and in a moment more she saw several figures approach the mouth of the cavern by the dim light of a torch which they carried before them.

"Here, Ned, why the devil don't you hold the light this way? I tell you it's right here in the cave that I heard the voice. It was a female in distress, and I know it."

"Yes," replied his companion, "it was a panther you heard, and if you want to risk your life in looking after it, you can take the torch and go it; but you don't get this cake, I say."

"Oh! God!" cried Emma; "thou hast heard my prayer; save, oh! save me, whoever you be, from the savage foe who has has me here bound a prisoner."

In a moment more the suffering Emma was kindly released from her cords, and found herself in the presence of several sturdy mountaineers, to whom she committed herself—"for whatever you are," said she, "I feel that you are surely sent to be my protectors, and save me from that vile and hateful Indian."

MONT BLANC.

FROM BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.

(Continued.)

The sun at length went down behind the Aiguille du Goutte, and then, for two hours, a scene of such wild and wondrous beauty—of such inconceivable and unearthly splendor—burst upon me, that, spell-bound and almost trembling with the emotion its magnificence called forth—with every sense, and feeling, and thought absorbed by its brilliancy, I saw far more than the realization of the most gorgeous visions that opium or hashish could evoke, accomplished. At first, everything about us—above, around, below—the sky, the mountain, and the lower peaks—appeared one uniform creation of burnished gold, so brightly dazzling, that, now our veils were removed, the eye could scarcely bear the splendor. As the twilight gradually crept over the lower world, the glow became still more vivid, and presently, as the blue mists rose in the valleys, the tops of the higher mountains looked like islands rising from a filmy ocean—an archipelago of gold. By degrees this metallic lustre was softened into tints—first orange, and then bright transparent crimson, along the horizon, rising through the different hues with prismatic regularity, until, immediately above us, the sky was a deep blue, merging towards the east into glowing violet. The snow took its color from these changes; and every portion on which the light fell was

amount of this great staple. And why? Not because those lands on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers are so fertile, but because they are so fertile, and the subsequent history of this country and the experience of the last ten years fully bears out that of a far-famed statesman. His remark by keep in motion; and, indeed, they were never still themselves during these halts.

We had nearly gained the edge of the Grand Plateau when our caravan was suddenly brought to a stop by the announcement from our leading guide of a huge crevice ahead, to which he could not see any termination; and it was far too wide to cross by any means. It appeared that the difficulty here—and they were now really anxious for Tairraz said that if we could not reach the other side our game was up, and we must retreat. A Auguste Devoussoud went ahead and called two had burnt out, and the other had been lost, shooting away like a meteor down the glacier until it disappeared in a gulf. The remaining light was handed forward, and we watched the course with extreme anxiety, hovering along the edge of the abyss—anon disappearing and then showing again farther off—until at last Auguste shouted out that he had found a pass, and that we could proceed again. We toiled up a very steep cliff of ice, and then edged the crevice which yawned upon our left in a frightful manner—more terrible in its semi-obscure than it is possible to convey an impression of—until the danger was over, and we all stood safely upon the Grand Plateau about half-past three in the morning.

We had now two or three miles of level walking before us; indeed our road, from one end of the plateau to the other, was on a slight descent. Before we started we took some wine; our appetites were not very remarkable in spite of all our work; but a lather cup of St. George put a little life and warmth into us, for we were chilled with the delay, and it was now intensely cold. We also saw the other lanterns approaching, and we now formed, as it were, one long caravan. Still in single file we set off again, and the effect of our silent march was now unearthly and solemn, to a degree that was almost painfully impressive. More atoms in this wilderness of perpetual frost, we were slowly advancing over the vast plain—slowly following each other on the track which the leading glimmering dot of light aided the guide to select. The reflected moonlight, from the Dome du Goutte, which looked like a huge mountain of frosted silver, threw a cold gleam over the plateau, sufficient to show its immense and ghastly space. Right up on our right was the summit of Mont Blanc, apparently as close and as inaccessible as ever; and immediately on our left was the appalling gulf, yawning in the ice of unknown depth, into which the avalanche swept Dr. Hans's guides, and in whose depths, ice-bound and unchanged, they are yet locked. Tairraz crept close to me, and said, through his teeth, almost in a whisper—"C'est ici, Monsieur, que mourut Auguste en 1820, avec Balmat, et Carrier: les pauvres corps sont encore la bas—on me donne de peine, toujours, en traversant la Plaine; et la route est encore périlleuse." "Et les avalanches?" I asked—"tombent-elles toujours?" "Oui, Monsieur, toujours—nuit et jour. Le plat passe, mieux pour nous!"

In fact, although physically the easiest, this was the most treacherous part of the entire ascent. A flake of snow or a clasp of ice, whirled by the wind from the summit, and increasing as it rolled down the top of the mountain, might at length thunder on to our path, and sweep everything before it into the crevice. Everybody was aware of this; and for three quarters of an hour we kept trudging hurriedly forward, scarcely daring to speak, and every now and then looking up with mistrust at the calotte, as the summit is termed, that rose above us in such cold and deceitful tranquillity. Once or twice in my life I have been placed in circumstances of the greatest peril, and I now experienced the same dead calm in which my feelings always were sunk on these occasions. I knew that every step we took was gained from the chance of a horrible death; and yet the only thing that actually distressed me was, that the two front lanterns would not keep the same distance from one another—a matter of the most utter unimportance to everybody.

At last we got under the shelter of the Rochers Rouges, and then we were in comparative safety; since, were an avalanche to fall, they would turn its course on to the plateau we had just quitted. A small council was assembled there. The Irishman, who had got a little ahead of us, was compelled to give in—he was done up and could go no farther. Indeed, it would have been madness to have attempted it, for we found him lying on the snow, vomiting frightfully, with considerable hemorrhage from the nose. I think this must have been about the same elevation at which young Mr. Telford was compelled to give in, in 18—.

I told our poor companion that he must not think the worse of us for leaving him there, with his guide, as unfortunately we could do nothing for him; but I recommended him to go back as speedily as he could to the Rochers Rouges, where he would find everything that he might require. He took this advice, and, indeed, we found him still at the rock, on our return.

As we reached the almost perpendicular wall of ice below the Roches we came into the full moonlight; and, at the same time, far away on the horizon the red glow of daybreak was gradually tingling the sky, and bringing the higher and more distant mountains into relief. The union of these two effects of light was very strange. At first, simply cold and bewildering, it had nothing of the sunset glories of the Rochers Rouges; but after a time, when peak after peak rose out from the gloomy world below, the spectacle was magnificent. In the dark boundless space a small speck of light would suddenly appear, growing larger and larger, until it took the palpable form of a mountain-top. Whilst this was going on, other points would brighten, here and there, and increase in the same manner; then the silvery gleam would mark the position of a lake reflecting the sky—it was that of Geneva—until the gray haze began to lighten up into hills and valleys, and irregularities; and the entire world below warmed into the glow of sunrise. We were yet in gloom, shadowed by the Aiguille des Nees, with the summit of Mont Blanc shut out from us by the Rochers Rouges; but, of course, it must have been the earliest to catch the rays.

When we were really very patient, as they drew against and past our faces and ears; so we took to our veils again, which all night long had been twisted round our hats. I felt very chilled and dispirited. I had now passed two nights without sleep; and I had really eaten nothing since the yesterday's morning but a bit of an egg, a piece of fowl, and a little bit of bread—for my illness had taken away all my appetite; and on this small diet I had been undergoing the greatest weariness. But none of us were complaining of nausea, or difficulty of breathing, or blood to the head, or any of the other symptoms which appear to have attacked most persons even on the Grand Plateau; so I picked up fresh courage, and prepared for our next achievement.

This was no light affair. From the foot of the Rochers Rouges there runs a huge and slanting buttress of ice, round which we had to climb from the N.E. to the E. Its surface was at an angle of about sixty degrees. Above us it terminated in a mighty cliff, entirely covered with icicles of marvellous length and beauty; below it was impossible to see where it went, for it lay to be the border of a great crevice. A few times we now had to go; and the journey was an hazardous one as a man might make along a steeply-placed roof with snow on it. Jean Carrier went first with his axe, and very cautiously cut every step in which we were to place our feet in the ice. It is difficult at times to walk along ice on a level; but when that ice is tilted up more than half-way towards the perpendicular, with a fathomless termination below, and no more foot and hand hold afforded than the edge of a cliff, it becomes a nervous affair enough. The cords came into requisition again; and we went along, leaning very much over to our right, and I must say, paying little attention to our guides, who were continually pointing out spots for us to admire—the Jardin, Monte Rosa, and the Col du Geant—as they became visible. It took us nearly half an hour to creep round this hazardous slope, and then we came once more upon a vast undulating field of ice, looking straight down the Glacier du Tuel, towards the upper part of the Mer du Glace—the reverse of the view the visitor enjoys from the Jardin.

(To be Continued.)

silvery on the summit, stealing slowly down the very track by which the sunset glories had passed upward and away. But it came so tardily that I knew it would be hours before we derived any actual benefit from the light. One after another the guides fell asleep, until only three or four remained round the embers of the fire, thoughtfully smoking their pipes. And then silence, impressive beyond expression, reigned over the isolated world. Often and often, from Chamouvi, I had looked up at evening towards the darkening position of the Grands Mulets, and thought, almost with shuddering, how awful it must be for me to pass the night in such a remote, eternal, and frozen wilderness. And now I was lying there—in the very heart of its ice-bound and appalling solitude. In such close communion with nature in her grandest aspect, with no trace of actual living world beyond the mere speck that our little party formed, the mind was carried far away from its ordinary trains of thought—a solemn emotion of mingled awe and delight, and yet self-perception of abject nothingness, alone rose above every other feeling. A vast untrodden region of cold, and silence, and death, stretched out, far and away from us, on every side; but above, heaven, with its countless watchful eyes, was ever all!

It was twenty minutes to twelve when the note of preparation for our second start was sounded. Tairraz shook up the more drowsy of the guides, and they were soon bustling about, and making their arrangements for the work before us. They had not much to carry now. Everything, with the exception of a few bottles of wine, some small loaves, and two or three cold fowls, was to be left on the Grands Mulets; there was no danger of theft from passers-by, as Carrier observed. This quarter of an hour before midnight was, I think, the heaviest during the journey. Now that we were going to leave our lodging, I did feel uncommonly tired; and wild and rugged as it was, I began to think the blankets and wrappers looked very comfortable in the ruddy firelight, compared to the glooming desert of ice before us. The moon was still low—that is to say, the light on the mountain had not come farther down than the top of the Aiguille du Goutte, so that we were in comparative darkness. Three or four lanterns were fitted up with candles; and Jean Tairraz had a fine affair, like a Chinese balloon, or more truly the round lanterns used in French illuminations, only larger; and this he tied behind him to light me as I followed. Michel Devoussoud took the lead; we came after him with regular numbers of guides, each traveler having a lantern carried before him, and then another guide or two, lightly laden. In this order, in single file, we left the Grands Mulets—not by the scrambling route of our arrival, but by the upper portion of the rocks, where we descended at once, in a few feet, to the snow. As we passed the upper Mulets, we heard our Irish follower "keeping it up" by himself in most convivial fashion, and singing "God save the Queen" to his guide. Soon afterwards we saw his lantern glimmering on our traces; and the light of the second aspirant was also visible, moving about before his start.

The snowy side of Mont Blanc, between the Grands Mulets and the Rochers Rouges near the summit, is formed by three gigantic steps, if they may be so called, one above the other, each of which is many hundred feet high. Between each is a comparatively level platform of glacier; and the topmost of these, which is two or three miles across, is called the Grand Plateau. Its position can be made out very well from Chamouvi with the naked eye. Up these slopes our road lay; and for more than two hours we followed one another in silence—now trudging over the level places, and now slowly climbing, in zigzag, up the steep. Very little talking went on, for we knew that we should soon need all our breath. The walking here, however, was by no means difficult for the snow was hard and crisp, and we made very good progress, although, for a long time, we saw the red speck of fire, far below us, gleaming on the Grands Mulets. The stars were out, and the air was sharp and cold, but only disagreeably biting when the lightest puff of wind came. This was not very often, for we were sheltered on all sides by the heights and aiguilles around us.

The march from the Mulets to the foot of the Grand Plateau was the most unexciting part of the journey. It was one continuous, steadily ascending tramp of three hours and a half—now and then retracing our footmarks with a little grumbling, when it was found, on gaining the edge of a ridge of snow, that there was an impracticable crevice on the other side; but the general work was not much more than that of ascending the Mer de Glace, on your route to the foot of the mountain, when you come to stand still.

When we were really very patient, as they drew against and past our faces and ears; so we took to our veils again, which all night long had been twisted round our hats. I felt very chilled and dispirited. I had now passed two nights without sleep; and I had really eaten nothing since the yesterday's morning but a bit of an egg, a piece of fowl, and a little bit of bread—for my illness had taken away all my appetite; and on this small diet I had been undergoing the greatest weariness. But none of us were complaining of nausea, or difficulty of breathing, or blood to the head, or any of the other symptoms which appear to have attacked most persons even on the Grand Plateau; so I picked up fresh courage, and prepared for our next achievement.

This was no light affair. From the foot of the Rochers Rouges there runs a huge and slanting buttress of ice, round which we had to climb from the N.E. to the E. Its surface was at an angle of about sixty degrees. Above us it terminated in a mighty cliff, entirely covered with icicles of marvellous length and beauty; below it was impossible to see where it went, for it lay to be the border of a great crevice. A few times we now had to go; and the journey was an hazardous one as a man might make along a steeply-placed roof with snow on it. Jean Carrier went first with his axe, and very cautiously cut every step in which we were to place our feet in the ice. It is difficult at times to walk along ice on a level; but when that ice is tilted up more than half-way towards the perpendicular, with a fathomless termination below, and no more foot and hand hold afforded than the edge of a cliff, it becomes a nervous affair enough. The cords came into requisition again; and we went along, leaning very much over to our right, and I must say, paying little attention to our guides, who were continually pointing out spots for us to admire—the Jardin, Monte Rosa, and the Col du Geant—as they became visible. It took us nearly half an hour to creep round this hazardous slope, and then we came once more upon a vast undulating field of ice, looking straight down the Glacier du Tuel, towards the upper part of the Mer du Glace—the reverse of the view the visitor enjoys from the Jardin.

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When we were really very patient, as they drew against and past our faces and ears; so we took to our veils again, which all night long had been twisted round our hats. I felt very chilled and dispirited. I had now passed two nights without sleep; and I had really eaten nothing since the yesterday's morning but a bit of an egg, a piece of fowl, and a little bit of bread—for my illness had taken away all my appetite; and on this small diet I had been undergoing the greatest weariness. But none of us were complaining of nausea, or difficulty of breathing, or blood to the head, or any of the other symptoms which appear to have attacked most persons even on the Grand Plateau; so I picked up fresh courage, and prepared for our next achievement.

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